

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-17 (Cancelled)

18. (New) A method of working a glass plate, comprising the steps of:

- (a) disposing a planar glass plate in a first section;
- (b) bending the planar glass plate disposed in said first section into a concave shape in a cross-sectional view;
- (c) raising the bent glass plate;
- (d) transporting the bent raised glass plate from the first section to a second section and then lowering the bent glass plate;
- (e) canceling the bending of the lowered bent glass plate to restore the bent glass plate to a planar state; and
- (f) working the planar glass plate in at least one of said first section and said second section.

19. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, comprising the steps of sucking the planar glass plate to bend the same.

20. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, wherein the glass plate is bent in a downwardly convex shape.

21. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 18, wherein one surface of the glass plate is coated.

22. (New) A method of working a glass plate, comprising the steps of:

- (a) disposing a planar glass plate in a first section;
- (b) bending the planar glass plate disposed in said first section into a concave shape;
- (c) raising the bent glass plate;
- (d) transporting the bent raised glass plate from the first section to a second section;
- (e) lowering the bent glass plate in the second section;
- (f) restoring the lowered bent glass plate to a planar state in the second section; and
- (g) working the planar glass plate in at least one of said first section and said second section.

23. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 22, wherein step (b) includes applying a vacuum to the planar glass plate to bend the glass plate.

24. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 22, wherein step (b) includes bending the planar glass plate in a downwardly convex shape.

25. (New) The method of working a glass plate according to claim 22, including coating one surface of the glass plate.

26. (New) An apparatus for working a glass plate comprising:
transporting means for transporting a glass plate from a first section to a second section; and
a working section for working the glass plate in a planar state, in at least one of said first section and said second section,

the transporting means having a bending means for bending the glass plate, disposed in the planar state in the first section into a concave shape in a cross-sectional view in a transporting direction, and canceling the bending of the glass plate transported to the second section to restore the bent glass plate to the planar state, and raising/lowering means for raising the bent glass plate by said bending means in the first section, and then lowering the bent glass plate transported to the second section.

27. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry the glass plate from the first section into the second section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the worked glass plate is carried-out from the second section by said transporting means.

28. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry another glass plate into the first section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the bent glass plate is carried-out from the first section to the second section.

29. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein the bending means is adapted to bend the glass plate in a downwardly convex shape.

30. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein the bending means has suction means for sucking the glass plate to bend the glass plate into said concave shape.

31. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said suction means has a recessed portion for sucking one surface of the glass plate, and a holding surface, which has a concave shape in the cross-sectional view in the transporting direction, for holding the glass plate sucked, said recessed portion being disposed in said holding surface.

32. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein said suction means has a recessed portion for sucking one surface of the glass plate, and a holding surface having a V-shape in the cross-sectional view in the transporting direction for holding the glass plate sucked, said recessed portion being disposed in said holding surface.

33. (New) The apparatus for working a glass plate according to claim 26, wherein one surface of the glass plate is coated.

34. (New) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein said transporting means has the bending means for bending the glass plate disposed in the first section into the concave shape in the cross-sectional view in the transporting direction, and canceling the bending of the glass plate transported to the second section, and raising/lowering means for raising the glass plate bent by said bending means in the first section and then lowering the glass plate transported to the second section, and is adapted to transport the glass plate from said first section to said second section.

35. (New) Apparatus for working a glass plate comprising:
means for transporting a glass plate from a first section to a second section; and

a working section for working the glass plate in a planar state in at least one of said first section and said second section,

said transporting means having means for bending the glass plate, disposed in the planar state in the first section into a concave shape in a cross-sectional view in a transporting direction, means in the second section for restoring the bent glass plate transported to the second section into the planar state, and raising/lowering means for raising the bent glass plate by said bending means in the first section, and then lowering the bent glass plate transported to the second section.

36. (New) The apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry the glass plate from the first section into the second section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the worked glass plate is carried out from the second section by said transporting means.

37. (New) The apparatus according to claim 35, wherein said transporting means is adapted to carry another glass plate into the first section in synchronization with a carrying-out operation in which the bent glass plate is carried from the first section to the second section.